## The Latest Adventures of the Wonderful Cleek :: By T. W. HANSHEW

OLLOPS, with ink-smudged fingers clutched in his thatch of carrotty hair, and his mouth half flung open in an effort to pronounce the English language "as it is spoke," was deep in that eternal source of wonder to him—the spelling book.

Cleek in any way. "Of course, of course, have add genially. "I merely told Berwick that I would put one of the smartest men we'd got upon the job. Be any one you like, my dear fellow, so long as underneath you are your own ingenious self."

"Why ain't p-l-o-u-g-h called pluft" bow, half pleased, half ironical. Then he was asking himself wearily when an imperative call from his old enemy the telephone bell caused him to start to his. He looked toward a motor car which straight

leased the telephone and re-entered the sure. Lovely day, what? Want me to small waiting-room attached to his office, wherein a man paced up and down with feverish steps, his head bowed on his shoulders and his hands tightly George Headland always adopted.

He was a man well on toward forty. grizzled hair growing thin on the tem-ples and his black eyes sunken and I think Mr drawn. He was evidently suffering from

the barest outline. Mr. Narkom tells me that your cousin disappeared six months ago, and since then your sister-in-law and two out of three of the children have died, and you suspect foul play."

"Yes," said Mr. Berwick, rather sharp-ly, and after that I think you may hope that the mystery will be solved." the mystery will be solved."

"Then let's find him. Mr. Narkom. I'm at my wit's end, but this last tragedy shall not be unaveraged, if it costs me

Servick motioned Mr. Narkom to take. shall not be unavenged, if it costs me my own life. If the law can't help me, then, by heaven. I'll take the matter into my own hands and shoot my poor darling's murderer like a dog. First their father lured away, then Ella, my sisterial-law, killed, and now two of the children dead. Man, for aught I know the last one may be lying dead now and I.—"His voice broke, he shook with the force of his emotion, and Mr. Narkom patted him in kindly sympathy on the shoulder.

Berwick motioned Mr. Narkom to take his place at the wheel, and when the his place at the wheel, shoulder.

terious business the better."

terious business the better."

"My car is outside." said Mr. Berwick with ill-concealed impatience. "Let us catch him as quickly as we can."

In less than ten minutes the two of them were driving through St. James Park at a lively clip that ate up the distance like a cat lapping cream. At Hyde Park corner, the car drew up sharply, and leaving Mr. Berwick to admire the beauties of Pall Mall for a space of a clirater of an hour, Mr. Narkom proceeded by a circuitous path across the Row, now filled with horsemen taking their morning constitutional, till he came in sight of the Achilles statue. His keen eves, always on the alert, soon lit with satisfaction, for there, sure enough, was the object of his search. He was seated

pause "Six months after Maurice Berwick's heir came into his fortune, he disand has never been heard of since. Half
and has never been heard of since. Half
and has never been heard of since. Half
and the whole family. Ella and tempt, he alighted from the car followed
the three children, and Mrs. Heseltine.
It was about 5 o'clock in the afternoon
of the next day when Cleek, accomppanion, should all take up their abode
with her

"Yus, sir, an' I don't
brief children go to stay at a Hydro for
"Yus, sir, an' I don't
should all take a shout Mrs. Hazeltree?" asked station nearest to the moor on which the laft
three children go to stay at a Hydro for
"What about Mrs. Hazeltree?" asked station nearest to the moor on which the laft
A half hour later Clee

the doctor be, please."

Oh. Dr. Colton—fine old man, crazed on modern methods for the medical profession—old friend of the grandfather. Sir Anthony, and has a hydropathic establishment. Simply worships the whole family, so you can imagine what his feeling were when the girl was found dead—in the middle of the afternoon. It is now wonder that Mr. Berwick called up.

The must be face. She smiled, yet only for a fleeting face. She smiled yet only for a fleeting face. She smiled yet only for a fleeting face. The face She smiled, yet only for a fleeting face. The face She smiled yet only for a fleeting face. The face She smiled, yet only for a fleeting face. The face She smiled, yet only for a fleeting face. The face She smiled, yet only for a fleeting face. The face only face face on the face only face. The face She smi

brother. The money was first left to behaved like the good old man ne is.

Maurice Berwick and his male issue. Mr. Berwick stopped short, the beads of the shook hands heartly with Cleek then to his uncles-Edward, who died perspiration standing out on his forewithout issue in Africa, and Gerard, who head. then to his uncles-Edward, who died perspi without issue in Africa, and Gerard, who head. without issue in Africa, and Gerard, who head is also dead. Therefore if anything happens to little Clifford, the remaining tones, it is an affair almost beyond hu-

Mr. Narkom fairly bristled with good "Closed both and

mysteries of the English language Cleek twitching up his eyebrows as Mr. Meanwhile, with a little sigh of absolute content, Mr. Maverick Narkom also re-

Mr. Berwick gave him a ouick, sharp look of astonishment. Then he but appeared even older by reason of his bowed, and took the limp hand Cleek ex-

"I think, Mr. Berwick," said Cleek, "if me intense mental pain and worry.
"Have you got him?" he demanded, his

National details of the case, of which I have but falling beneath Mr. Narkom's the barest outline. Mr. Narkom tells me

Berwick motioned Mr. Narkom to take

bequests to servants, was left to his only Exactly, Mr. Berwick, exactly, And son, Maurice, and his male issue, the quicker we get to work on this mys-terious business the better." in the event of their deaths to his broth-ers. Edward, who has died without is-

the object of his search. He was seated upon a bench just facing a gorgeous bed of double hyacinths whose azure bells. London for a week-end, and he had nor were like the blue of a summer cloud returned. The matter was put into the Cleek raised his eyes at the sound of hands of the police—" Mr. Narkom nod-Cleek raised his eyes at the sound of hands of the police—Mr. Narkom non-mr. Narkom's footsteps crunching on the gravel and smiled.—Mr. Sarkom non-ed herself to such a pitch of hysteria "I might have known there wouldn't that, acting on the advice of her doctor-be much peace for me, once you knew I Dr. Colton-she and the three children was in town," he said in his low, even tones.
"Mysterious disappearance," said Nar"Cleek twitched up his head, with a

"Yes, it is an oid bouse that has been many of the superintendent literally lumped."

"In league with infernal powers, ch" no, no, my friend, there's nothing superintendent seven many of the superintendent seven seven wore as serious look. The breaking down to the fronker and the surface and with superintendent seven station."

"Yes, it is an oid bouse that has and so many of the superintendent seven day of the superintendent seven station and additions have been made of white and the whole for the body. It was much against my wish. I assure the whole has a war the war and so there you are severed with a surface of the whole has a war the war and so there was a severe white and the whole station."

"All went up to see if my blessed bair in the found having a try in the found having a try in the h

-in the middle of the afternoon. It is Mrs. Berwick was cremated, I suppose. "I no wonder that Mr. Berwick called up Mr. John Berwick gave a start and sur- too."

Berwick, which one is this be begged her husband it he survived her, wick entered in company with believed asked.

Mr. John Berwick, the missing man's ated Most angry. Dr. Colton was, too.

However, he carried out her wishes and behaved like the good old man he is.

The money was first left to behaved like the good old man he is.

Wick entered in company with behaved with the behaved with the behaved of the should be heartly with C.

inherit."

Cleek got up. He took a last lingering look at the hyacinths, as if blidding them a rejuctant good-by. Then he swung round on his heel and faced Mr. Narkom. "My friend." he said quietly, "I have a fancy to put Mr. George Headland upon this case, and let Cleek stay in the head."

Cleek sat a moment in silence tugging a ring almost of passion in it as he spoke.

"I understand you are going to eluctate these distressing mysteries for us. Mr. Headland," he said softly in his fine, deep voice. "I pray so, for they have deepened still further since Mr. Berwick left."

was with him.

The doctor put in Cleek, whisking found and facing Mr. Narkom's podgy figure upon the bench. "And who may you told me just now that the gentleman the doctor be please."

Oh. Dr. Collemente old man careful manufacture and the control of the please."

And who may alice, but missing."

Was with him.

The light in Cleek's face was almost a transfiguration, and as Ailsa met that look of passionate adoration a vivide she said in a strangely low, strangely the doctor be please."

Oh. Dr. Collemente old man careful manufacture and the control of the please."

Oh. Dr. Collemente old man careful manufacture and the control of the please."

Oh. Dr. Collemente old man careful manufacture and the control of the please."

The doctor is the control of the please of the please

No wonder that Mr. Berwick called up is obtained Yard."

Oleek twitched up his evebrows. He "What on earth made you think of was suddenly very much allve, very guessing that." he spluttered, startled much awake. His eves searched the successful that "he is a letter in which she begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick, which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he spluttered, startled in the tesselated hall outside, her face hardened ever so slightly, and she step-picture. Serwick which one is this?" he spluttered, startled in the tesselated hall outside, her face hardened ever so slightly, and she step-picture. Serwick which one is this?" he begged her husband if he survived her. Serwick which one is this?" he serwick which one is this?" he spluttered, startled in the tesselated hall outside, her face hardened ever so slightly, and she step-picture. Serwick which are survived her. Serwick which are survived

As John Berwick had said on the pre He shook hands heartily with Cleek

'My friend,' he said quietly, ''I have a hanging fear of death.'

Cleek sat a moment in silence tugging this case, and let Cleek stay in the background. Humor me, please ''

Mr. Narkom fairly bristled with good 'Closed, both of them. The room had 'Cleek looked up quickly. 'Closed, both of them. The room had 'Cleek looked up quickly. 'Closed be in two different tones. ''In what way, may I ask, Dr. Colton?'' He felt himself drawn irresistably, as was every He was glad to have interested been set aside as a nursery for the chil- one else, toward this grave old

shall, old man."

"Show you where the lions roar tomorrow," went on the boy, tucking his
little white hand into Cleek's big brown

The detective's eyebrows went up "Don't keep a menagerie, do you? he asked with a puzzled air. "That won't do my nerves any good."
"Don't be silly, Cliff," said Mrs. Ber

silly, Cliff," said pare. wick sharply.

ture from the kindly doctor, said no wooden staircase. One thing he notice at once. There was neither gas nor electric light-all the illumination was by th soft glow of lamps, which were plentifu on wall and landing.

fore he could speak an elderly woman came swiftly forward, her eyes lighting with relief as they fell upon little Clif-

chap?" he asked in badly-veiled excite-ment.

Get your hat

invitation. His affection for her was devices. Yet, strangely enough, when the only too evident. women had left the room, Mrs. Heselonly too evident.
Ailsa came close to Cleek.

lings," she cried.

"In the chair, I think," said Ailsa, "but down the long, white ribbon of a road at twas John Burwick who found all three, a lively clip. As they swerved madly one after the other. Dear, it's a mys-tery-a horrible, dreadful mystery." Colton, staring from his window, uttered

Cleek took her hands, and looked long into the upturned eyes. Then with a little sigh he turned from her, and crossed to the window.

Don't let anyone know that I have been in here, Ailsa, but I'd like to stay quietly by myself if you do not mind. She left him at that and went out of the room closing the door softly beingd.

like a restless spirit.

Presently his eye flashed, and he too.

Cliff, my boy, my boy, he cried,

The day passed uneventfully enough, sound of a sharp explosion, and instantand Cleek, having amused himself by go-ing over the house and grounds thor-jerked like a frightened horse, and the oughly, returned to spend the evening smell of burning rubber arose. The left with Dr. Coiton, John Berwick and Mr.

spite the fact that two out of the number were police officers on the track of a possible criminal.

Presently Cleek jumped up, and putting up the eyeglass, the use of which irritated Mr. Narkom beyond measure, he made a restless tour of the room, coming to a stand at last before a door beside one of the bookcases. Seeing this, Dr. Colton also rose and came over to him. That leads to my laboratory. he explained, taking a key from his pocket. I keep it locked in case of stray patients entering when they are not wanted, and, as you can imagine, when I'm on a dissention job it would be awk.

out, doctor. I should go mad if I stayed room to its foundations half an hour in this room."

any one's died in my room?"

Mrs. Heseltine shook her head.

was asleep. Then, soundless as a cat and as lightfooted, he crept out of the

Well." said Mr. Narkom, the next a morning, when, after breakfast, he join-ed Cleek on the stone terrace outside, "Cleek stood bowing and smiling in front "what do you think, Cleek"."

down the flight of stone steps leading into an ornamental Dutch garden. The sound of a motor car arrested his

"Because I stand between them and the attention. "The limousine, Mr. Nar

them if anything nappened, and I have failed. Help me save this one, won't er promptly, and without vouchsafing Clifford eye any further explanation Cleek made his amusement. Cleek's hand just fluttered over hers as way to the doctor's consulting room. he spread a sheet of music in front of "Funny things sprains are" he her. His lips brushed her hair as he after explaining his misadventure. ent his head.
"That's what I'm here for," he said Wonder if you'd mind looking at it." He "There is the murderer, Mrs. Berwick,

on Mr. Berwick's face, as he no- come back." He pulled out his watch ticed their proximity.

"An utter fool" he scowled, as he looked across at the clever police officer tor. This is of no importance. Hello"

The plane out his watch and Cleek took the aint.

"I forgot your motor is waiting, doc-looked across at the clever police officer tor. This is of no importance. Hello"

engaged in teaching Miss Lorne the mys-teries of cat's cradle!

He gianced out of the window and beck-oned the doctor toward him. "What's

posite side of the landing.

The superintendent was a-quiver with "Stevens," he exclaime "Stevens," he exclaimed, his face pal-ing a little, "has anything gone wrong?"

rushed out of his surgery, followed by "Can't say till I've been over the Cleek, who limped forward more slowly With faces white and strained Mr. and Cleek was up betimes the next morning

Mrs. Berwick, Alisa, Mrs. Heseltine and
Come and have a game, youngster," he

Mr. Narkom were gathered round the

At sight of the doctor a perfect babel of voices broke out-but it was John Berwick who told the tale.

"Clifford." he gasped. "He's gone' He's The fool of a chauffeur let him

handed it to Mr. Narkom.

Ten minutes later, the pursuers were The child sped away, tumbling over the deck chair in his anxiety to obey Allsa's on their way, leaving Cleek to his own

quick exclamation and clutched Mr.

master.

"Dollops." said Cleek quickly. "I want you to do something for me. See if you can find me a stray cat or doz, or a hen if nothing else can be found. Put it in a basket up in my room, but be silent about it. I don't went any one to have the least suspicion of it."

Again the car shot forward like a live thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory seemed so sure a thing. But even as they reached their goal, even as victory s

Narkom.

The consulting room, which was attached to the doctor's laboratory, was vant to an exclamation which was hard a comfortable room enough, and the four men made up a very cheerful party despite the fact that two out of the number of the spite the fact that two out of the number of the spite the fact that two out of the number of the spite that two out of the number of the spite that two out of the number of the spite that two out of the number of the spite that two out of the number of the spite that two out of the number of the spite that two out of the number of the spite that two out of the number of the spite that the

and even as Ailsa sprang voice, strangely familiar, strangely

"Ladies and gentlemen." said he. "Per

fle, the clatter of many feet, the hourse shouting of many voices, and thensinck, snick went the handcuffs and Dr Colton found himself enjoying the close company of Mrs. Heseltine, while Cleek stood smiling beside them "The game's up, my friend:" said that centleman blandly, as he looked down into the doctor's panicstricken face.

he said said Cleek, airily waving his hand toward ture. "I them. Then as the door shut he turned

The roaring had not ceased, and Allsa

moved toward the wafe.
"The chair, mind the chair," cried Cleek. "Don't move till I have connected the current!" He darter the safe and in another second the sound

engaged in teaching Miss Lorne the mysteries of cat's cradle!

He might, however, have altered his become of it? Better go out and have a opinion had he but seen that same face, when, having apparently retired for the night. Cleek had succeeded in shutting in his excitement, but the drive was him weapon, and a clear good the doctor toward him. "What's clear job he made of it. too! There are dynamos in the underground cellars that make this iron chair a vertiable death trap! Maurice, in fact all his victime of the drive was carried down to the value." and beck- "Electricity was his weapon, and a "What's clever job he made of it. too! There himself into Mr. Narkom's room on the clear enough save where from the end of Maurice was carried down to the vaults opposite side of the landing. cept his skull, which is in the laboratory. ing a little, "has anything gone wrong?" Ladies and gentlemen, the ride A minute later there came a hubbub solved. I wish you good evening

## THE CROOKED HOUSE

"Thank you," said Cleek, with a little dren, and the windows were heavily Dr. Colton proceeded:

barred."

Cleek sat in silence for several minutes stroking his chin, and staring at the grassy slopes of the park. Presently he straightened himself. "A most interesting little problem, don't you know; a rather ordinary one, too, don't you think—what" he said with irritating blandness.

Dr. Colton proceeded:

"A young servant, an orphan from the for you gave me! I've been looking for you everywhere in this dratted for you everywhere in this dratted the same way as my bonny lambs. Oh. Mr. Headland, you don't know what those children wholehearted delight. "I'll show you where the lions roar," he said confidentially, after glancing swiftly round to see that no one overshead them. His voice broke with emotion as he clenched his hands until the knuckles stood out like it my presence," broke in the doctor low."

A young servant, an orphan from the fright you gave me! I've been looking for you everywhere in this dratted the same way as my bonny lambs. Oh. Mr. Headland, you don't know what those child played hide-and-fright you gave me! I've been looking for you everywhere in this dratted the said confidentially, after glancing with two men and stopped in confusion.

"Hush, Mrs. Heseltine: I've warned you I won't have that kind of thing said in my presence," broke in the doctor low."

All right; you go slong and I'll follow."

All right; you go slong and I'll follow."

They tiptoed silently till they reached turned aside.

"A young servant, an orphan from the fright you gave me! I've been looking for you everywhere in this dratted."

"I'll show you where the lions roar," he said confidentially. Seek with him in wholehearted delight.

"I'll show you where the lions roar," he said confidentially. Seek with him in wholehearted delight.

"I'll show you where the lions orar."

He said confidentially. Seek with him in wholehearted delight.

"I'll show you where the lions orar."

He said confidentially. Seek with him in wholehearted delight.

"I'll show you where the lions orar."

He said confidentially. Seek with him in who



\*\*Mysterious disappearance.\*\*

\*\*Kom.\*\*

I suppose it's the Berwick case again, said Cleek quietly.

The superintendent literally jumped.

"Have you got second sight, or—"

The learne with infernal powers, ch? odd wings and additions have been made odd wings and additions have been made.

"You have you got second sight, or—"

The learne with infernal powers, ch? odd wings and additions have been made.

"You have you got second sight, or—"

Can't we drive right off to the low doctor had stated that her nod, and left Cleek to his own reflections.

"You can't we drive right off to the low doctor had stated that her nod, and left Cleek to his own reflections."

"You can't we drive right off to the low doctor had stated that her nod, and left Cleek to his own reflections."

"You can't we drive right off to the low doctor had stated that her nod, and left Cleek to his own reflections."

arguered from his house in Devonshite their nurse, and the governess, or command has never been heard or since. Half panion, should all take up their abed fasted in the first and the part of the mere children go to stay at a Hadro from the first and the part of the first and the first an

"But they do roar sometimes, don't they. Miss Lorne?" said the boy obstin-ately, and Cleek, obeying a quick ges-

tering over some music.
"Why?" queried Cleek, softly.

"I know it," the girl returned, looking rounds." Little Clifford ran suddenly up to Cleek and clung hold of his hand.

"Me come, too," he said coaxingly, looking up into Cleek's smiling face. "Me come, too."

Cleek patted his shoulder. "So you shall, old man."

Show you where the lions rear for show of the girl returned, looking up into his face with fear-widened eyes. "They are both hard pressed for money. I have seen the bills, and, besides, it was lings. I promised their mother to guard them if anything happened, and I have failed. Help me save this one, won't failed. The family of emethe last brait is out to the family of emethe last brait is out. "Ah! In that case I'd rather like to strained one of my tendons of the way."

"Not quite so quickly, my friend."

"Not quite so quickly my friend."

> mply.
>
> "I start tomorrow morning, perhaps."
>
> In the start tomorrow morning, perhaps."
>
> In the start tomorrow morning, perhaps."
>
> I start tomorrow morning, perhaps."
>
> In the murderer, sire, perwice, the murderer of Maurice and the two children. Miss Lorne." entry of the others prevented any licitiously. further discussion, and Cleek could not "Try cold water bandages." he sug-help noticing the swift glance, almost of gested. "I'll have another look when I

"Come and have a game, youngster," he Mr. Nark said in the afternoon to Clifford, and, chauffeur. "Master Cliff, ah, my dear, what a nothing loth, the child played hide-and-

Allsa rusned in.
"I knew you'd come here," she cried, struggle," Cleek said carelessly, "If you with a little note of pain in her voice, happen across Dollops you might give him this for me, will you". He scribbled the come and play soldiers. with me in the ground. Quick, darling something on a page of his notebook and

Ailsa came close to Cleek.

"This is the room where his mother was found dead and the other two darto the chair. Meanwhile Mr. Narkom and the doctor "Where were the other two children sumped into the limousine, instructed found, dear? In this room, too?"

Lennard to put on top speed and speed Colton, staring from his window, uttered

the room, closing the door softly behind sunlight like molten copper, and the flutter of little Clifford's hand like a flash.

Left to himself. Cleek prowled about of white.

Dr. Colton taxed will for the driver shining in the sunlight like a flash.

Dr. Colton taxed will for the driver shining in the sunlight like a flash.

Presently his eye flashed, and he too went swiftly from the room, and sought out Dollops.

The boy was not far away from his Again the car shot forward like a live.

Again the car shot forward like a live.

wanted, and, as you can imagine, when I'm on a dissection job it would be awkopened, and Mrs. Heseltine, her eyes ward."
"Yes, indeed," agreed Cleek, heartily following his host into the room.
"Beastly job, though, isn't it? Let's get out doctor. I should go mad if I stayed out doctor. I should go mad if I stayed.

And then the doctor did a remarkably No, sir what nonsense

He passed on up the staircase toward strange thing. Looking neither to right s room, to wait there until the house nor left, he entered the safe, followed as a sleep. Then, soundless as a cat closely by Mrs. Heseltine's sturdy figure. doorway, and with a covered basket in the harsh grating as of a sheet of from his hand made his way to the deserted being drawn backward into the socket. stifled cry and turned toward those two

There was the sound of a sharp scuf-

"You won't have such a good chance of inheriting those millions yet. Mr. Ed-ward Burwick, and don't you forget it." The doctor mouthed and squirm er fancy it's the doctor just off on his a whipped animal. "You've beaten me, curse you," he cried, "but I've done for

Clifford eyeing the group with childish